

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 02324 021029Z

43

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7278

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR UN BM

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS - UN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA

REF: RANGOON 2090

1. IN DISCUSSION ON NARCOTICS MATTERS WITH AMBASSADOR, U KYAW, CHIEF, UN DIVISION, MFA, STATED THAT MFA AND HOME, HEALTH, PLANNING & FINANCE, SOCIAL WELFARE, AND AGRICULTURE & FORESTS MINISTRIES HAD HELD SEVERAL MEETINGS ON UNFDAC PROJECT FOR BURMA, WITH MATTERS NOW AT STAGE WHERE MINISTRIES WERE ALLOCATING ANTICIPATED UNFDAC \$5 MILLION FUNDS FOR 5 YEAR PROGRAM AMONG VARIOUS PROJECTS PLANNED BY EACH MINISTRY. PROJECTS WERE BEING PHASED INTO GUB'S OWN FOUR YEAR ECONOMIC PLANNING, FOR WHICH ALL FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPENDITURES HAD TO BE IDENTIFIED FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS. U KYAW INDICATED THAT HOME MINISTRY (WHICH SUPERVISES PEOPLE'S POLICE FORCE) WOULD NEED VEHICLES AND COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, HEALTH MINISTRY PLANNING 100-BED REHABILITATION HOSPITAL, AND AGRICULTURE MINISTRY ORGANIZING CROP SUBSTITUTIONS, ETC.

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PAGE 02 RANGOO 02324 021029Z

WM RE TIMING, U KYAW SAID GUB HOPED TO PRESENT PLAN TO UN TECHNICAL EXPERTS BY END OF MONTH, BUT SLIPPAGE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF GUB PREOCCUPATION WITH PARTY CONGRESS, REFERENDUM ETC. HOWEVER, SINCE GUB DRAWING UP PLAN IN FORMAT USED BY UN FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS, GRANTING OF UN APPROVAL WOULD HOPEFULLY NOT BE LENGTHY PROCESS. AT SOME EARLIER POINT A UN TECHNICAL MISSION WOULD VISIT RANGOON TO GO OVER DETAILS. (POSSIBLY HE WAS REFERRING TO UNFAC/FAO TEAM WHICH WILL BE IN THAILAND LATTER PART NOVEMBER AND COULD PROCEED RANGOON THEREAFTER).

3. U KYAW NOTED, AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THAT GUB WOULD CONTRIBUTE COUNTERPART FUNDS TO PROJECTS FOR SUCH ITEMS AS SALARIES OF LOCAL EMPLOYEES, BUILDINGS, ETC. IN SOME CASES LOCAL CURRENCY COSTS WOULD BE AS HIGH AS 75 PERCENT OF TOTAL PROJECTS, HE ASSERTED.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH PROGRESS IS HARDLY RAPID, GUB IS CLEARLY COMMITTED TO PROJECT, AND IS PUSHING AHEAD EVEN THOUGH ITS LIMITED TECHNICAL PERSONNEL ARE SIMULTANEOUSLY ENGAGED ON OTHER HIGH PRIORITY MATTERS CONNECTED WITH NEW STATE CONSTITUTION.
MARTIN

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